



Report to: British Transport Police Authority
Agenda item: 4
Date: 11 December 2014
Subject: Chief Executive's Report
Sponsor: Chief Executive
For: Information

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1. Purpose of Paper

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to summarise the work of the British Transport Police Authority Executive since the last British Transport Police Authority (“Authority”) meeting.

2. Airwave and ESN

- 2.1 The Chief Executive has replied to a letter from the Director General Crime and Policing Group at the Home Office. The Director General, College of Policing, asserted that the Home Office had offered to pay for the first £20m of BTP's core service charge. Furthermore this amount had been fully expended in 2012 but the Home Office continued to pay such that by the end of FY 2014/15 the Home Office will have spent £30.1m on BTP's core service charge. The Home Office propose therefore to cease funding the core charge. After an exhaustive search of Authority and Force records there is no record of this arrangement but there is a signed contract to the effect that the Home Office will pay the core service charge for the life of the service. The reply reflects this.
- 2.2 The Chief Executive and Director of Capability and Resources are to meet Home Office officials on the 17 December to discuss participation in and funding of Emergency Services Network.

3. Ex-Gratia Payments Summary

3.1 Since the last Authority meeting a resubmission of a previous declined case was made and approved.

4. ISP Approval

4.1 Since the last Authority meeting a submission was made to DfT and subsequently the Government Digital Service for approval for the technology spend for the Integrated Systems Programmes in accordance with the Cabinet Office control requirements. The Authority received approval from both DfT and GDS, but conditions were applied to the approvals. The conditions are:

- **DfT – Condition of approval**

- BTP agree to participate in an investigation with DfT, GDS, MoJ and the Home Office into a future opportunity to rebuild functionality using a modern Open Source solution that could then be rolled out to other police forces. The potential benefits – i.e. service improvements, efficiencies and savings – that such an approach might deliver are sufficiently large-scale as to make such an investigation worthwhile. The impact on BTP of agreeing to this condition is likely to be low because:

- Funding of the investigation is likely to be sought elsewhere. We would work iteratively using Agile to avoid an expensive up front commitment in favour of an approach that would abandon further investigation as soon as the benefits of further investigation looked unlikely.

1. Some BTP time may be required but we would aim to engage in a manner that would prioritise delivery of the system that BTP is seeking and, where possible, would aim to account for additional time required separately.

2. Should the investigation start to confirm the anticipated benefits we would work with BTP to find a time suitable for the replacement of the system we are currently approving with the new Service and phase this in in line with the contract renewal timings highlighted in the BTP case i.e. we note that there are opportunities to renew at the 1, 3, 4 and 5 year points

- **GDS - Condition of approval**

- The department must return to Cabinet Office for approval at contract award stage.
- The department should engage with the Crown Hosting Service about future infrastructure strategy for BTPA. I can put you in touch with the team to talk this through.

4.2 BTP have been requested to make contact with the Crown Hosting service and that ISP will be standing item on the bi-monthly meetings with DfT to monitor progress against the above conditions.

5. Out of Committee Decisions

5.1 The Authority approved a proposal to address on-going recruitment and retention issues within the Information Technology (IT) Department, putting delivery of 'business as usual' and Transformation at risk. The detail of this was to:

- use Hay Job Evaluation methodology to review pay grades at an estimated increased cost of £70k per annum on the IT staff budget of £2.829m;
- implement an industry standard framework for IT staff to assess and pay a skills supplement estimated at £180k per annum; and
- to achieve this to take effect for the December pay run.

5.2 It was further noted that these recommendations increased the IT staff budget from £2.289m to £3.079m per year until the IT Department's structure and the options to deliver IT services are revised in January 2017.

6. Pensions

6.1 The consultation period concluded on the 6 December 2014. A Pensions sub-group meeting is to take place on the 16 December to consider upon the outcome of the consultation in order to make recommendations to the Authority meeting on the 29 January 2016.

7. BTPA Members Recruitment

7.1 Ten applications have been received so far with further enquiries made. The closing date is Friday 12 December.

7.2 A list of the applications has been sent to the DfT for submission to the Centre for Public Appointments before the advert closes, who in turn will liaise/send on to No. 10 to feedback views on specific names or comments on the diversity/skills mix of the candidates.

8. Members/Executive News

8.1 BTPA Chair Millie Banerjee has set out her vision for how the Authority intends to work in future with colleagues in the rail world in a bid to continue 'shaping progress together' in an open letter available on our website. Stakeholders have also been sent a direct email notifying them that the letter is available for them to view and to make comments.

9. Contracts

9.1 The Chief Executive signed and sealed the following contracts:

- PSA Serco Caledonian Sleeper - 3.12.14
- EPSA - SPT - 14/5 £118K - 3.12.14 x 2
- PSA - Keolis Amey Docklands Ltd DLR x 2 - 3.12.14

9.2 The Lucy Yasin, Business Manager signed the following contract:

- MOPAC Independent Custody Visiting Service Level Agreement x 2 - (£28k)

10. Recommendations

10.1 Members are asked to note this report.